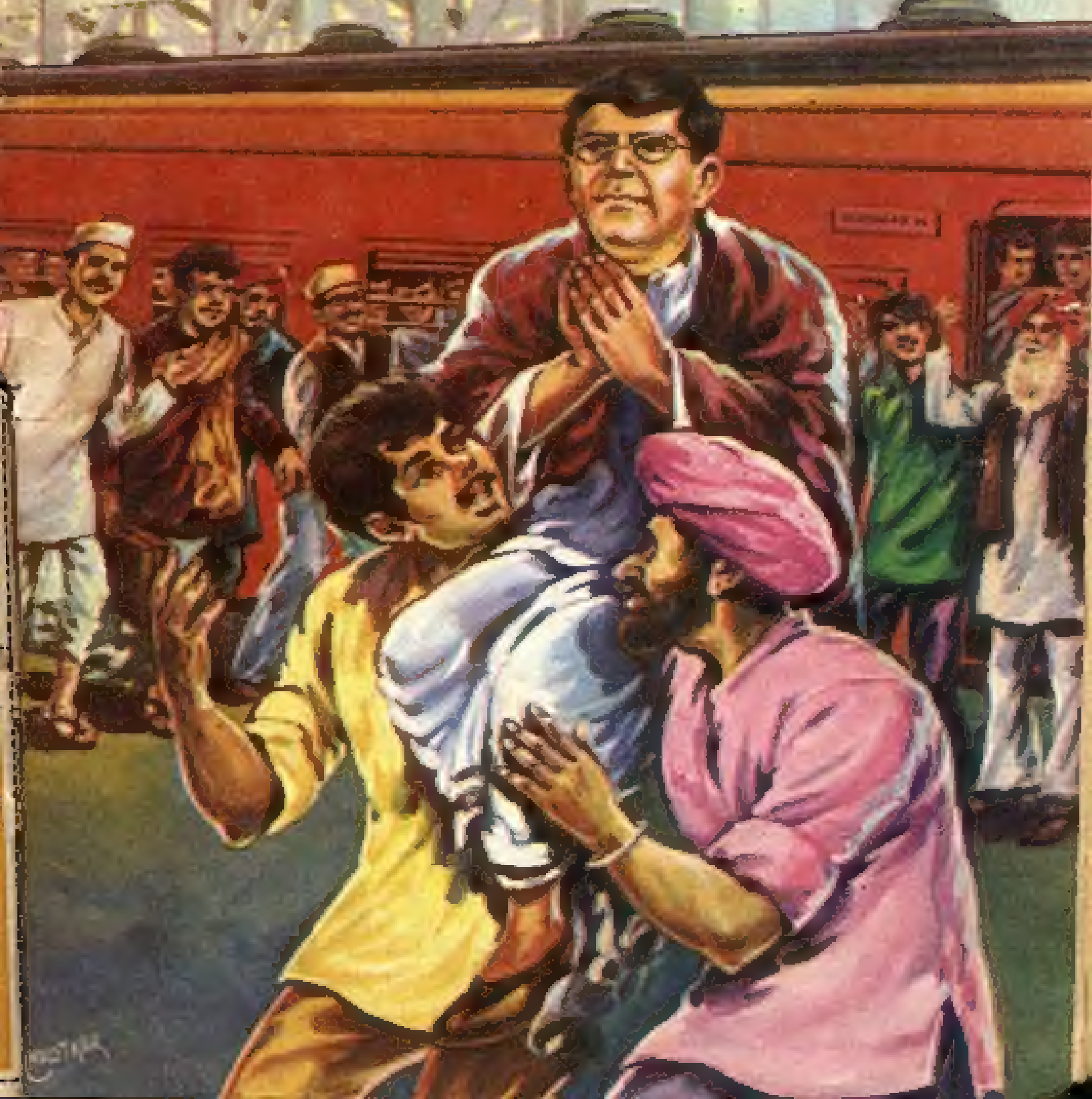




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Chittaranjan Das

Chittaranjan Das had but one dream: *The freedom of India*. He had but one programme: *the struggle for freedom*. "He dreamed and thought and talked of the freedom of India and of nothing else."

Chittaranjan Das had great respect for Gandhi's wisdom. Yet he knew when to compromise and when to act up to his own convictions. He agreed with Gandhi that non-co-operation was a peaceful and effective means of achieving swaraj. He was prepared to boycott everything even remotely connected with the British establishment, everything but the legislature. At the risk of disobeying his leader, he questioned the wisdom of boycotting it.

Chittaranjan Das was a brilliant lawyer, a distinguished poet, a born leader. Above all he was a man who loved his country and his countrymen. No wonder people gave back in abundance the love they received from him. They called him **DESHBANDHU**.

We are grateful to Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das Memorial Committee, Calcutta for scrutinizing the script and for providing visual references.

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CHITTO, CHITTARANJAN DAS
BORN IN CALCUTTA

**DESHBANDHU
CHITTARANJAN DAS**



CHITTARANJAN DAS WAS BORN IN CALCUTTA ON NOVEMBER 5, 1870, IN A FAMILY OF EMINENT LAWYERS. WHEN HE WAS 20, HE GRADUATED WITH DISTINCTION FROM CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY.



SO IT WAS NATURAL THAT HIS FATHER SHOULD WANT HIM TO BECOME AN I.C.S. OFFICER.



CHITTO, YOU WILL GO TO LONDON FOR THE I.C.S. EXAMINATION.

BUT... FATHER... WE CAN'T AFFORD THAT... YOUR DEBTS...



DON'T WORRY, SON. I HAVE SET ASIDE ENOUGH FOR YOUR EXPENSES!

AND SO CHITTARANJAN ARRIVED IN LONDON IN 1890...



...AND BEGAN STUDYING FOR HIS I.C.S. EXAMINATION.



ONE DAY IN 1882 —



DAD TOOK AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN. AROUND THAT TIME LORD SALISBURY, A MINISTER, REFERRED TO DADABHAI AS "THAT BLACK MAN".

DAD STRONGLY CONDEMNED THE STATEMENT AT A MEETING OF THE LIBERAL PARTY.



DADABHAI NAOROJI, THE FOUNDER OF THE FRIENDS OF INDIA SOCIETY, WAS A POPULAR AND RESPECTED PERSONALITY ON THE BRITISH POLITICAL AND SOCIAL SCENE, BUT HE LOST THE ELECTION BY A NARROW MARGIN.

AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN POLITICS COST CHITTARANJAN HIS ENTRY INTO THE CIVIL SERVICE. THE DAY THE RESULTS WERE ANNOUNCED —



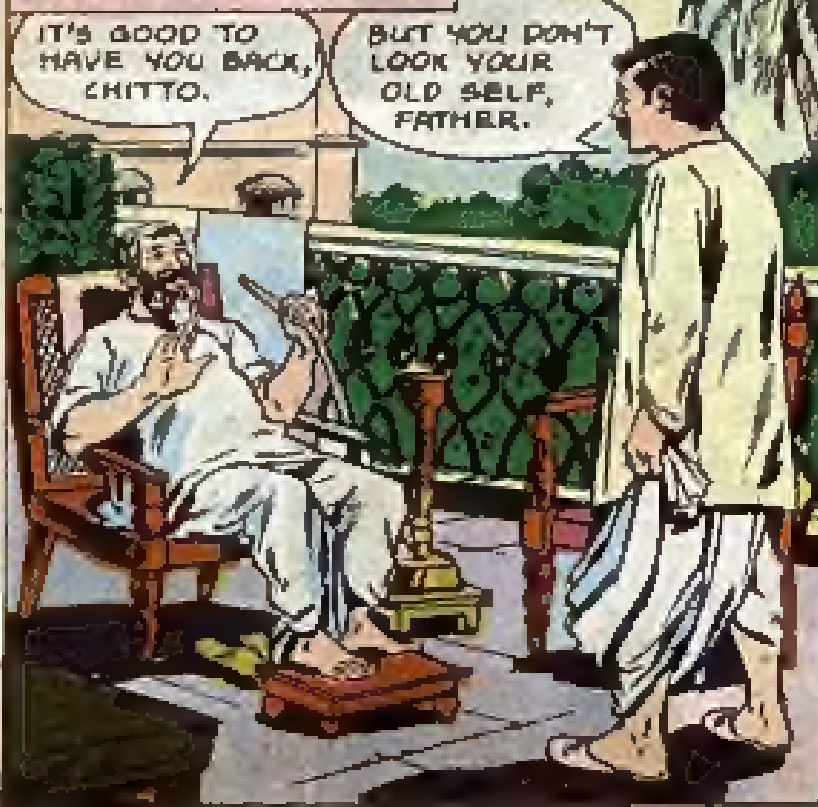
BUT, IF HIS FATHER WAS DISAPPOINTED, HE DID NOT SHOW IT IN THE LETTER HE WROTE TO DAS.



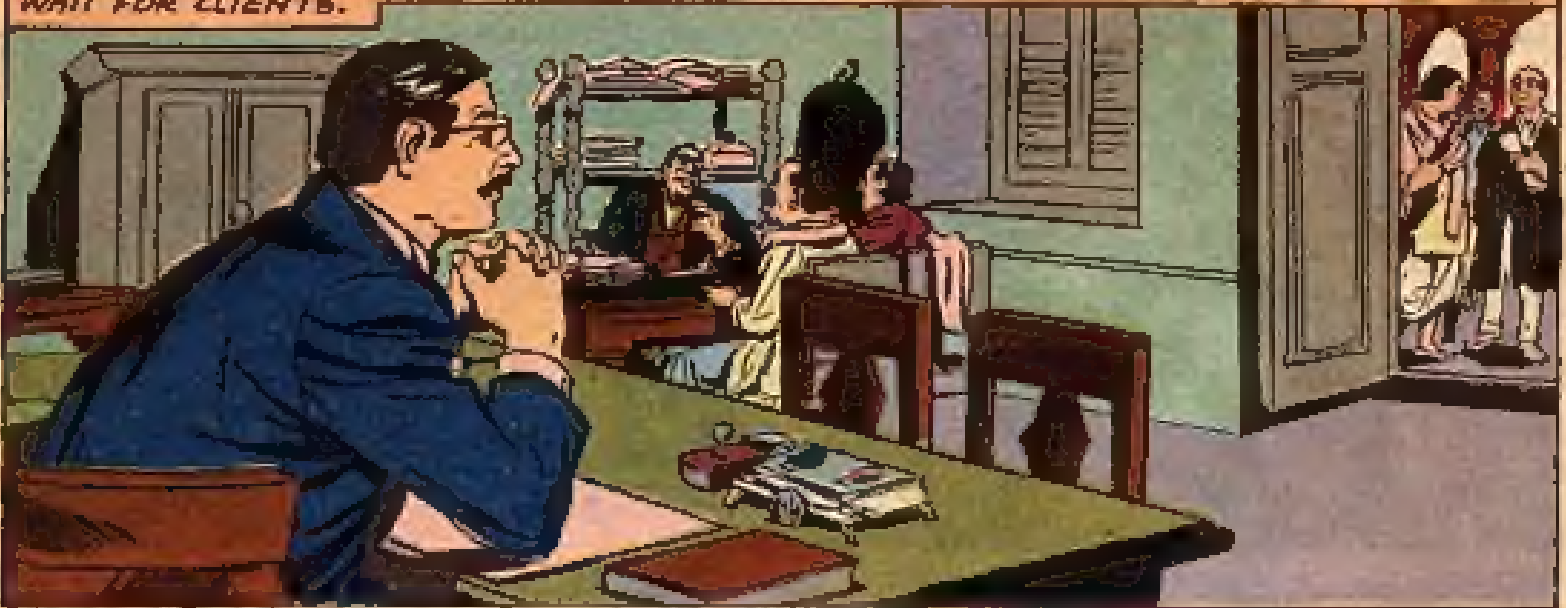
DAS TOOK HIS FATHER'S ADVICE, WAS CALLED TO THE BAR THE SAME YEAR, AND SET SAIL FOR INDIA IN 1895.



WHEN HE GOT HOME —

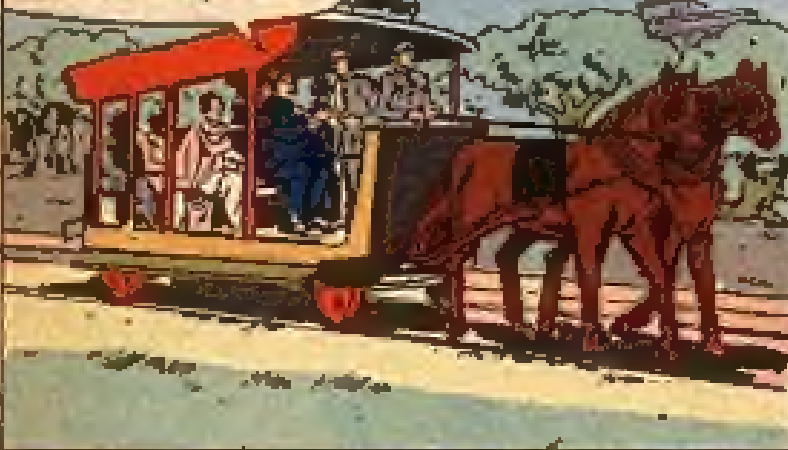


DAS STARTED PRACTICE AT THE CALCUTTA COURT THE FIRST DAYS WERE A STRUGGLE. HE HAD TO WAIT FOR CLIENTS.



IN THOSE DAYS LAWYERS HAD THEIR OWN CARRIAGES. BUT DAS COULD NOT AS YET AFFORD ONE!

ONE TICKET TO ESPLANADE, PLEASE.



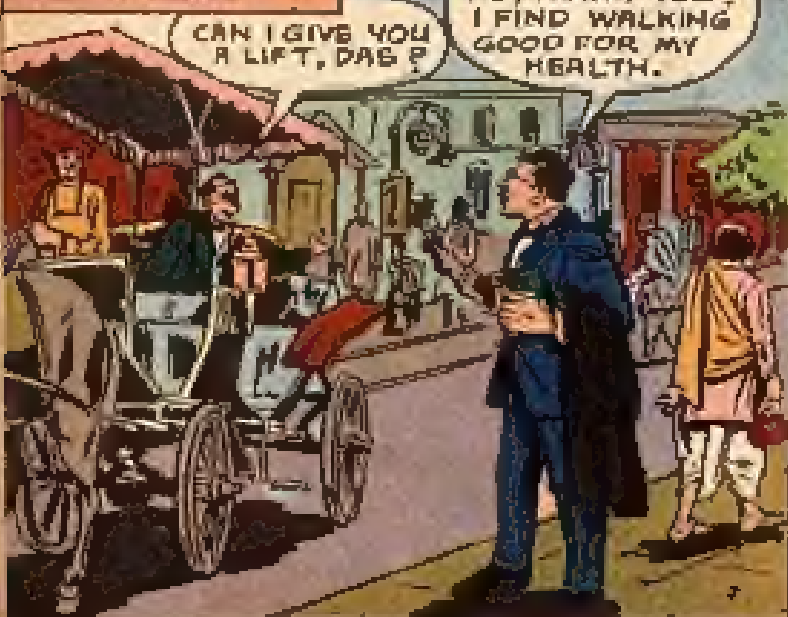
HE USUALLY WENT TO THE COURT BY TRAM AND RETURNED HOME ON FOOT.



ONE EVENING —

CAN I GIVE YOU A LIFT, DAS?

NO, THANK YOU! I FIND WALKING GOOD FOR MY HEALTH.



GRADUALLY, HOWEVER, HIS PRACTICE IMPROVED.

BABU, YOU MUST TAKE UP MY CASE.

LET ME STUDY IT.



BUT IN 1896 A FRESH CONTINGENCY AROSE AT HOME.

I AM DEEP IN DEBT AS IT IS. AND NOW THIS.

WHAT, FATHER?



I STOOD A MAN THIRTY THOUSAND RUPEES IN SURETY AND THE FELLOW HAS VANISHED! HIS CREDITORS TOO WILL PESTER US. WE'LL HAVE NO PEACE.

THERE IS ONLY ONE THING WE CAN DO.



WE WILL JOINTLY FILE AN INSOLVENCY PETITION.

NO! NO! NOT THAT!



IMAGINE THE DISGRACE. PEOPLE WILL SHUN US. YOUR PRACTICE WILL BE RUINED.



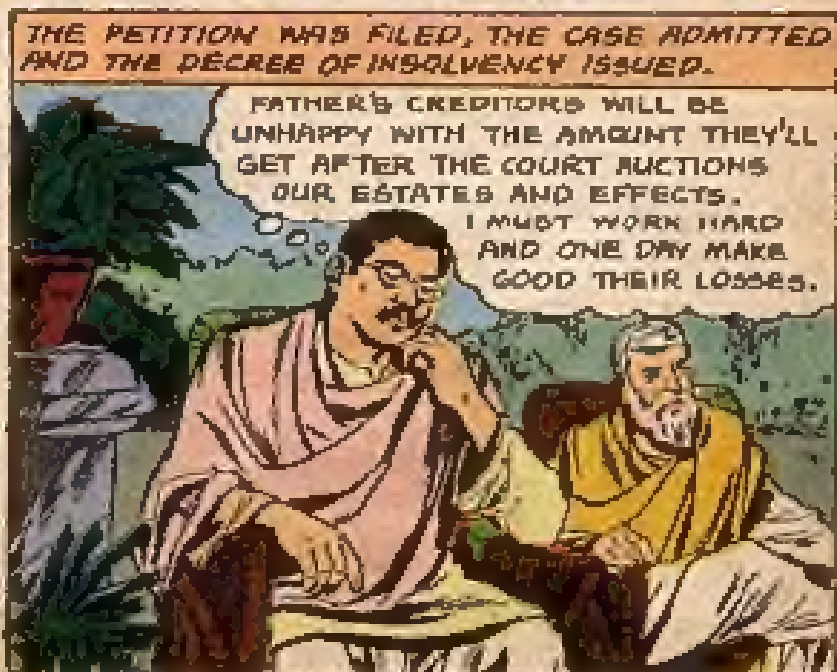
FATHER, IF MY CLIENTS ARE CONVINCED THAT I AM A COMPETENT BARRISTER, THEY WILL CONTINUE TO COME TO ME!



HIS FATHER RELUCTANTLY GAVE IN.

THE PETITION WAS FILED, THE CASE ADMITTED AND THE DECREE OF INSOLVENCY ISSUED.

FATHER'S CREDITORS WILL BE UNHAPPY WITH THE AMOUNT THEY'LL GET AFTER THE COURT AUCTIONS OUR ESTATES AND EFFECTS. I MUST WORK HARD AND ONE DAY MAKE GOOD THEIR LOSSES.



IN SPITE OF THESE PRESSURES, DAS FOUND TIME TO WRITE POETRY, A PURSUIT HE EXCELLED IN AND ENJOYED. HIS FIRST ANTHOLOGY OF POEMS, MALANCHA, WAS PUBLISHED IN 1896.

[illegible]

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COURT, THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF THE FACTS:

THE TONE OF ITS CONTENTS HOWEVER WAS TOO RADICAL EVEN FOR THE REFORMIST BRAHMO SAMAJ TO WHICH HE BELONGED.



AROUND THIS TIME, DAS'S MARRIAGE WAS FIXED. PIQUED BY THE YOUNG MAN'S CRITICISM, THE ACHARYAS OF BRAHMO SAMAJ DECIDED TO BOYCOTT THE WEDDING. BUT DAS INSISTED THAT THEY HEAR HIM OUT BEFORE THEY DID.



GAS WON THE DAY AND WAS MARRIED TO BASANTI DEVI IN 1897, ACCORDING TO BRAHMO RITES, WITH THE ACHARYAS AS WITNESSES.



IN 1905, THE BRITISH PARTITIONED BENGAL ON COMMUNAL LINES. THERE WAS A STRONG REACTION FROM THE PEOPLE.



THE GOVERNMENT CAME DOWN WITH A HEAVY HAND ON THE DEMONSTRATORS.



SEVERAL YOUNG MEN SERIOUSLY THOUGHT OF RESORTING TO ARMS TO OVERTHROW THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT. THEY LOOKED TO AUROBINDO FOR GUIDANCE.



DAS WAS, FOR SOME TIME, ASSOCIATED WITH THESE REVOLUTIONARIES.

BUT HE HAD PRACTICALLY GIVEN UP ACTIVE POLITICS TO CONCENTRATE ON HIS LEGAL CAREER, AND THERE HIS REPUTATION STEADILY GAINED GROUND AND SO DID HIS INCOME! HE WAS EQUALLY SUCCESSFUL IN CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES, AND EARNED FAME FOR HIS SKILL IN CROSS EXAMINATION.



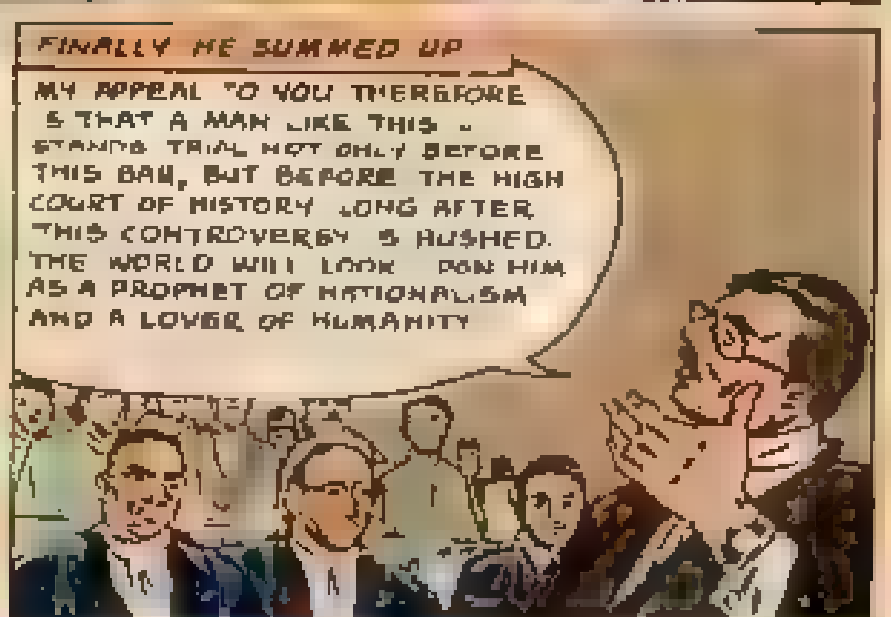
MEANWHILE THE GOVERNMENT HAD TAKEN SEVERAL STEPS TO CURB THE ACTIVITIES OF THE REVOLUTIONARIES. ONE DAY —



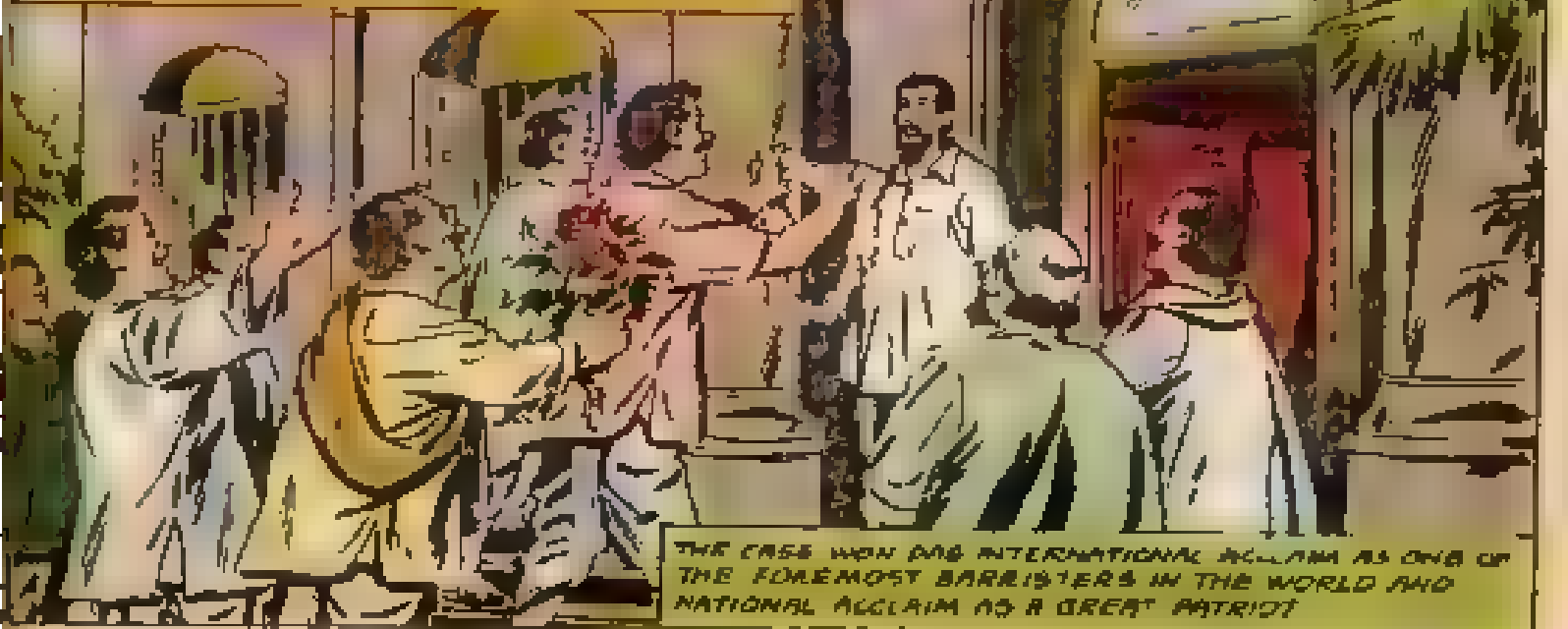
KNOWING THIS DAS ACCEPTED THE BRIEF EVEN THOUGH IT MEANT A SET-BACK IN HIS OWN INCOME, ANOTHER ROUND OF BORROWING, AND HARDSHIP FOR THE FAMILY. NIGHT AND DAY HE PORED OVER HIS LAW BOOKS OBLIVIOUS OF ALL ELSE. THE TRIAL BEGAN IN 1908...



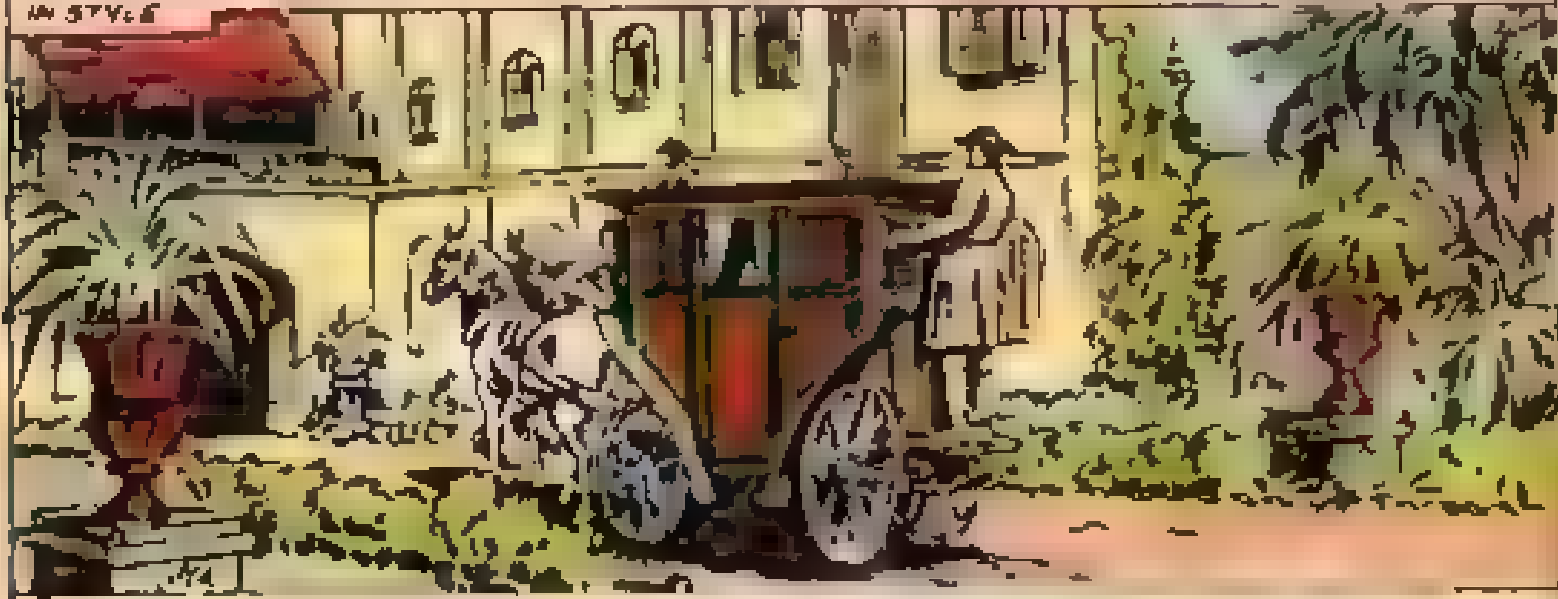
AND WENT ON FOR SEVERAL MONTHS HIS CONCLUDING ADDRESS TO THE JURY ITSELF TOOK NINE DAYS PRESENTED IN THE FIRST PERSON IT HAD TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT THE SOUL OF AURBINDO



THE SPELLBOUND JURY GAVE ITS VERDICT AND AURBINDO WAS ADMITTED IN MAY 1909



HIS SELFLESS WORK OF THE PAST FEW MONTHS PAID HIM BACK, THOUGH UNSOUGHT DIVIDENDS. HIS REPUTATION BOARED AND SO DID HIS INCOME. HE NOW JOINED A LARRIGUE WHO LIVED IN STYLE.



THE TIME HAD COME TO FULFIL THE VOW HE HAD MADE TO HIMSELF YEARS AGO



PLEASE MAKE A LOT UP
ALL MY FATHER'S
CREDITORS AND THEIR
DUES

BUT, CHITTO, YOUR
FATHER AND YOU WERE
DECLARED INSOLVENT
YOU ARE NOT LEGALLY
BOUND TO REPAY
THOSE DEBTS!



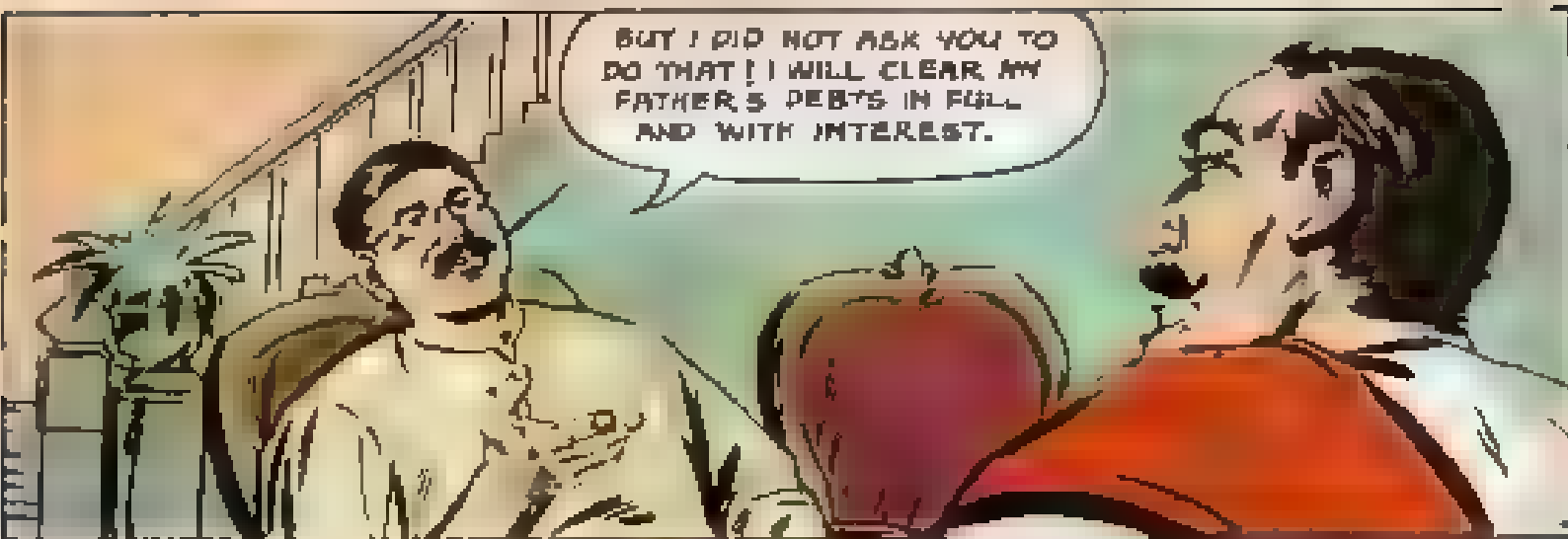
PERHAPS NOT,
LEGALLY - BUT
DEFINITELY SO,
MORALLY! THEY
HELPED MY FATHER
WHEN HE WAS IN
NEED



A FEW DAYS LATER THE MAN WAS BACK

YOUR JOB IS DONE I HAVE
SPOKEN TO SOME OF THE
CREDITORS AND THEY
HAVE AGREED TO
REDUCE THEIR CLAIMS





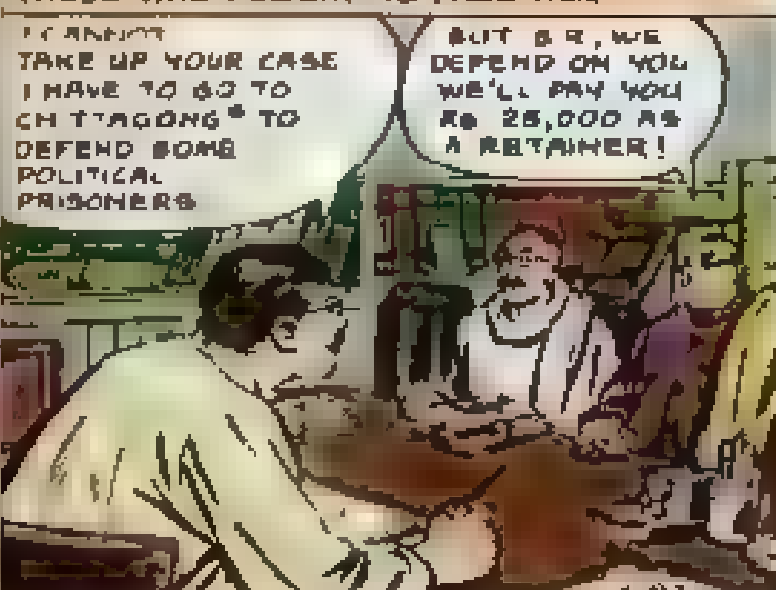
ONE WHO LEAST EXPECTED THE CHEQUE HE RECEIVED WAS S R. MULLICK, A CHILDHOOD FRIEND. HIS FATHER HAD ONCE LENT DAS'S FATHER SOME MONEY!



RETURNING MONEY MY FATHER LENT HIS FATHER! HMM! WOULD I HAVE DONE THE SAME? I WONDER.



ON NO FRONT DID DAS LET THE TEMPTATION OF MONEY DESTROY HIS LOFTY VALUES OR HIS DEEP LOVE FOR HIS MOTHERLAND AND THOSE WHO FOUGHT TO FREE HER.



BUT S R, WE DEFEND ON YOU WE'LL PAY YOU Rs 25,000 AS A RETAINER!



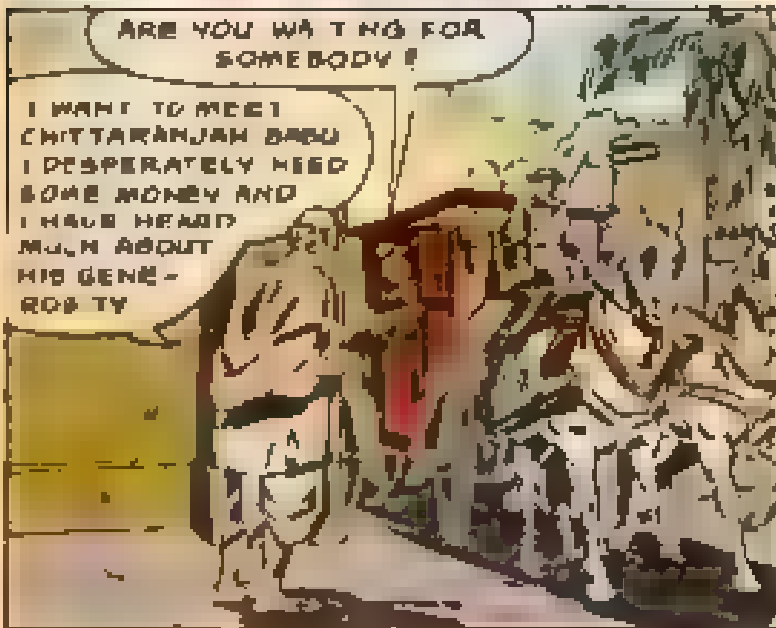
NOT ONLY DID HE GIVE PRIORITY TO PATRIOTS BUT OFTEN DIPPED INTO HIS OWN BANK BALANCE WHEN HE TOOK UP THEIR CASES!

NO LESS GENEROUS WAS HE TO THE NEEDY AND IN SUCH CASES HE PREFERRED TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS. ONE MORNING AS HE WAS ABOUT TO LEAVE FOR THE COURT HE SAW AN OLD MAN AT THE GATE.



ARE YOU WAITING FOR SOMEBODY?

I WANT TO MEET CHITTARANJAN BABU. I DESPERATELY NEED SOME MONEY AND I HAVE HEARD MUCH ABOUT HIS GENEROSITY.

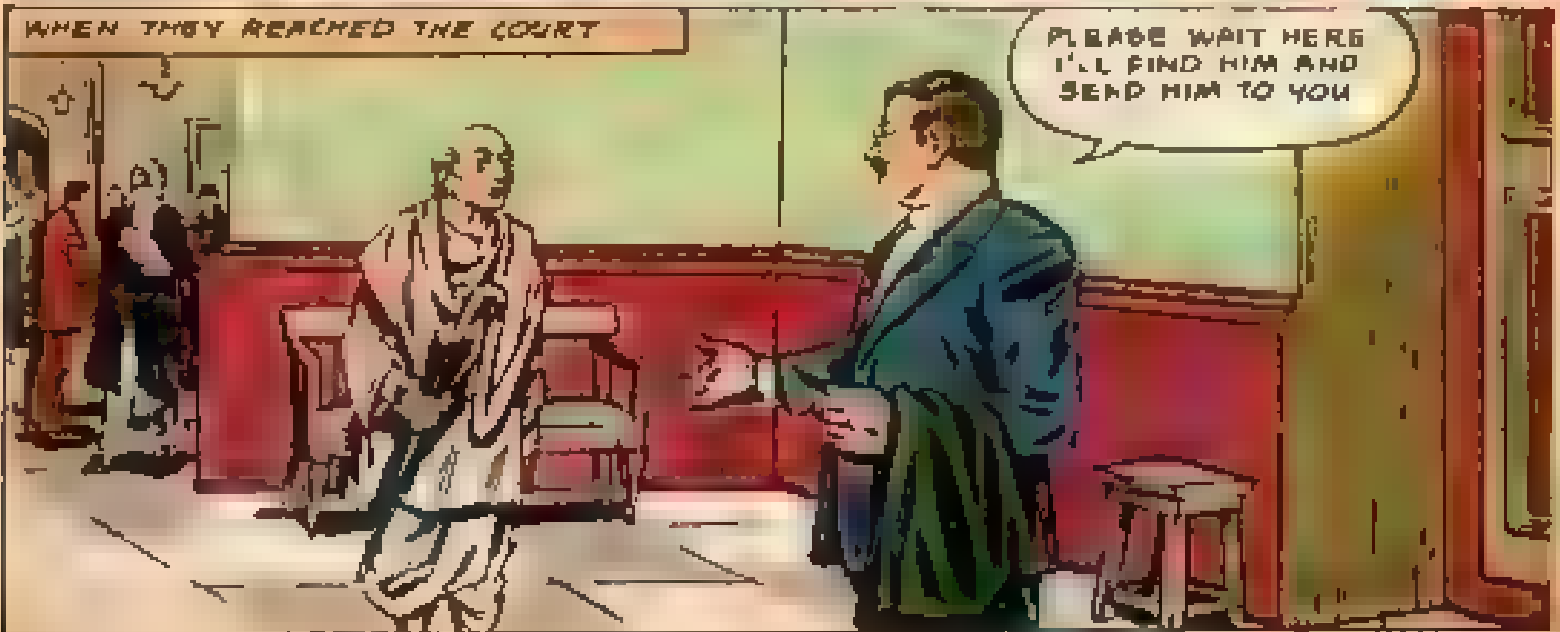


CHITTARANJAN MUST HAVE COME TO THE COURT. COME IN! LET US TRY AND FIND HIM THERE.



WHEN THEY REACHED THE COURT

PLEASE WAIT HERE. I'LL FIND HIM AND SEND HIM TO YOU.



A LITTLE LATER A CHAPRASI CAME TO THE OLD MAN WITH A CHEQUE

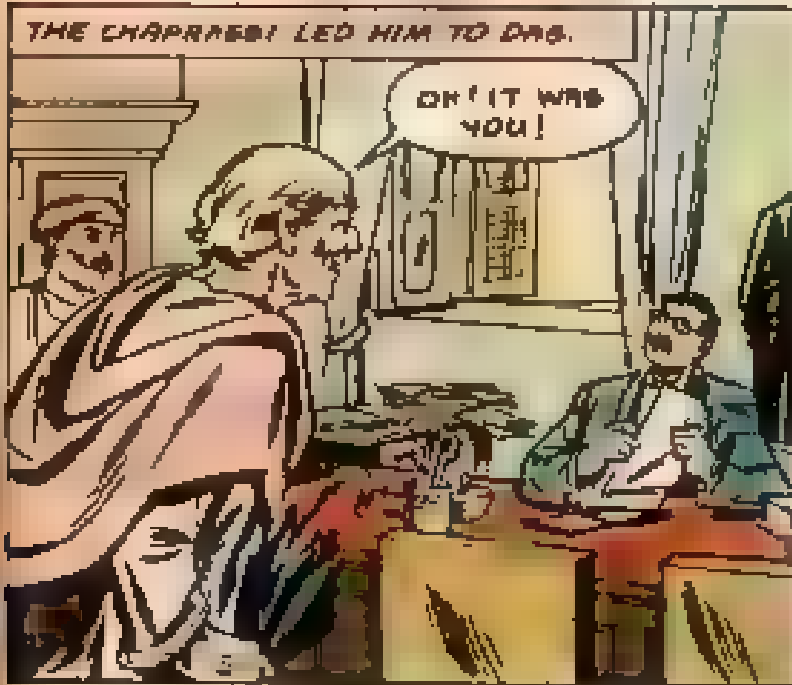
THIS IS FOR YOU DAS
MOSHAY HAS SENT IT

BUT HE HAS NOT
EVEN SEEN ME! TAKE
ME TO HIM! I WANT
TO THANK HIM!



THE CHAPRASI LED HIM TO DAS.

OH! IT WAS
YOU!

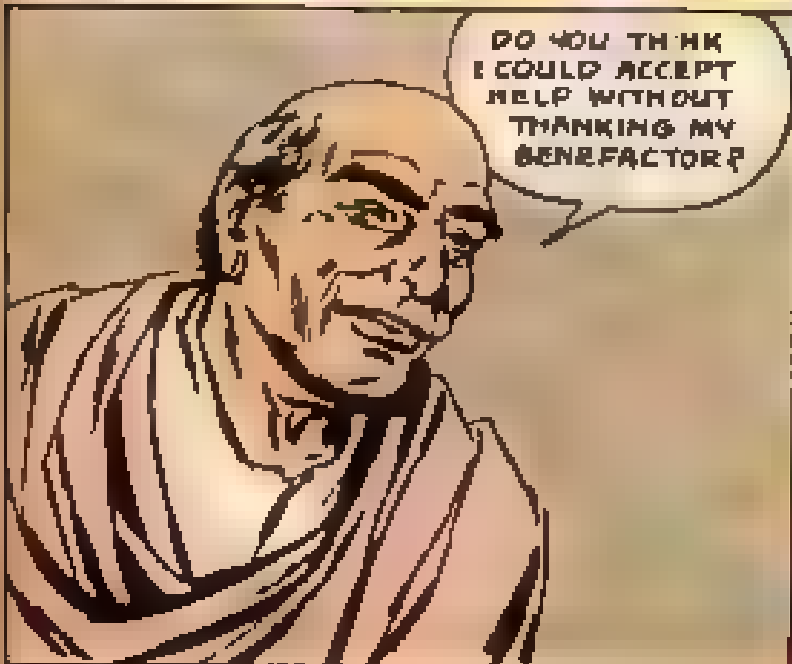


DIDN'T I TELL
YOU NOT TO

IT'S NOT HIS
FAULT, SIR
I INSISTED
ON SEEING
YOU



DO YOU THINK
I COULD ACCEPT
HELP WITHOUT
THANKING MY
BENEFACTOR?



MAY GOD BLESS
YOU, SON!



BY THE YEAR 1918 DRS HAD BEGUN TO TAKE AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN THE NATIONAL MOVEMENT HE ADDRESSED SEVERAL MEETINGS

INDIA MUST BECOME SELF-HELPING AND WE SHOULD MEET THE WEST AS EQUALS!

INSTEAD THE ROWLEY BILL WAS PASSED AND EVEN PEACEFUL GUARDED PERSONS WERE LAID - (CHARGE?)

AND IMPRISONED



OR SHOWERED WITH BULLETS AS IN THE SHAMEFUL MINDLESS MASSACRE OF INNOCENTS OR KID BY GENERAL DYER AT JALLIANWALA BAGH IN 1919

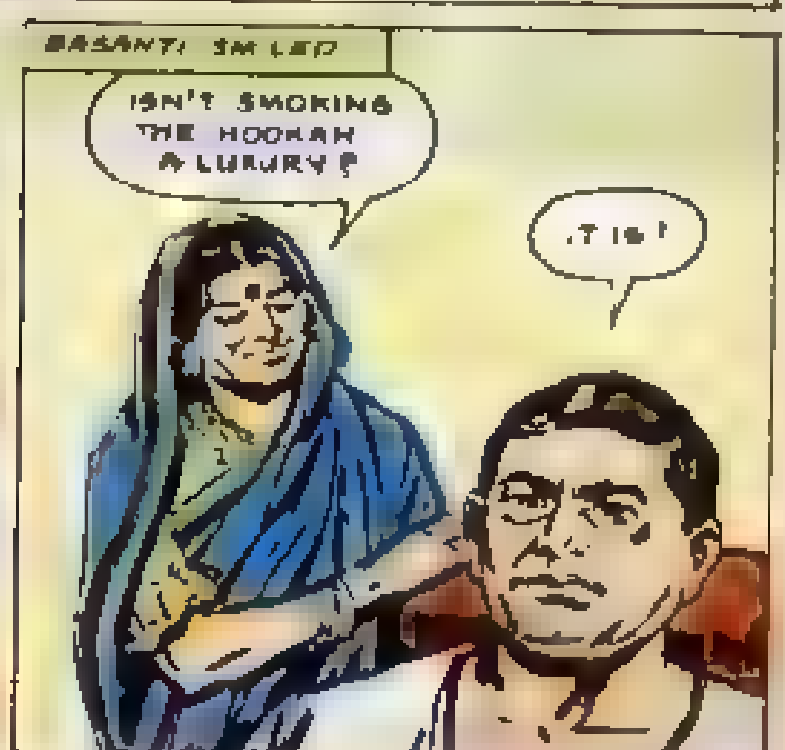
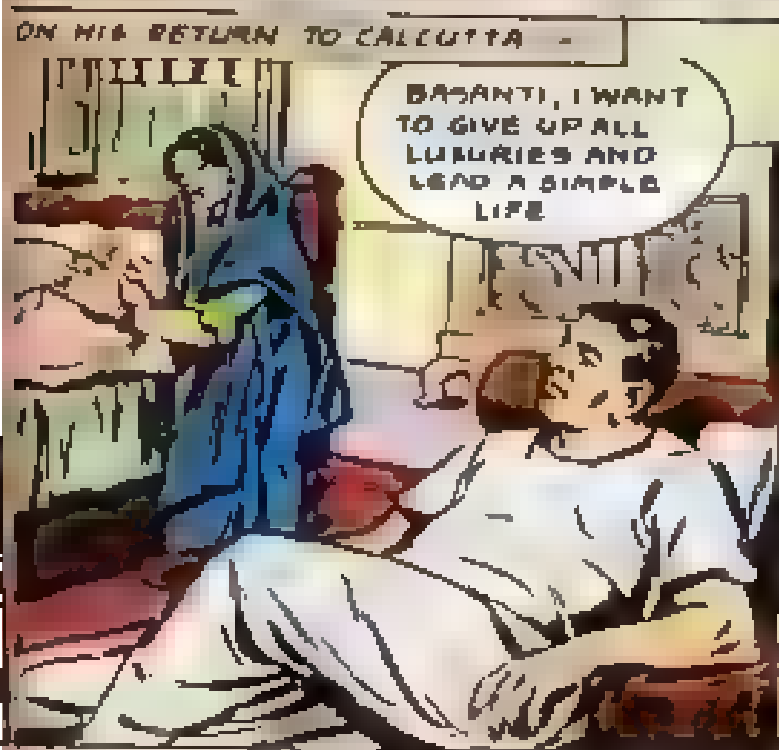
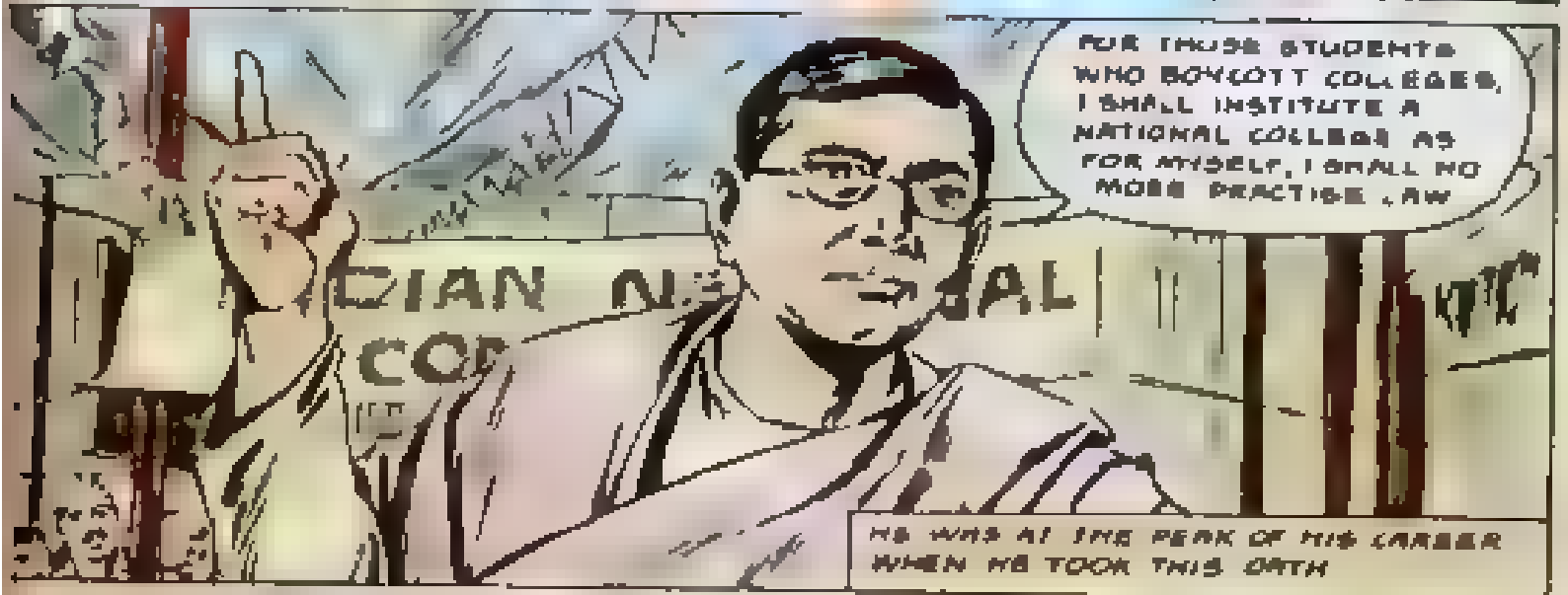


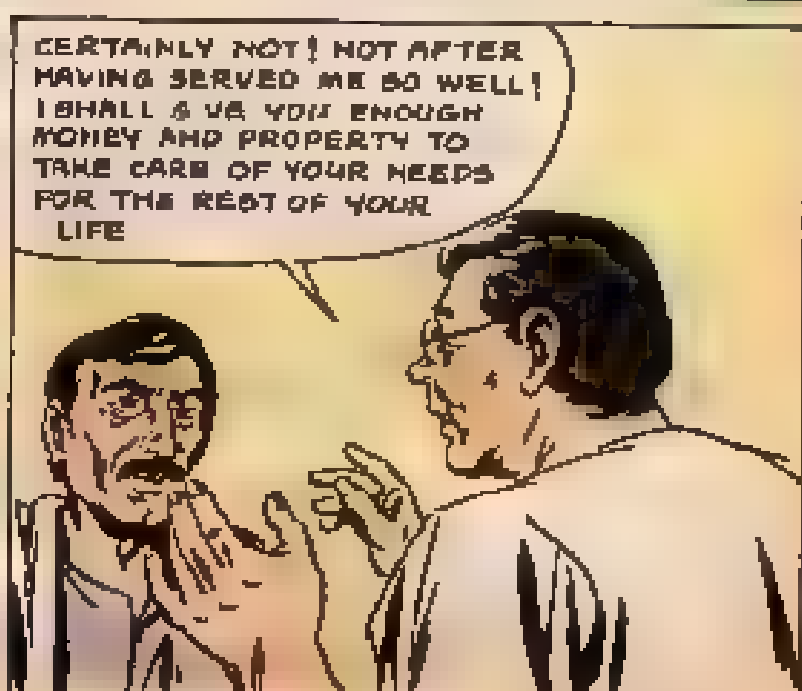
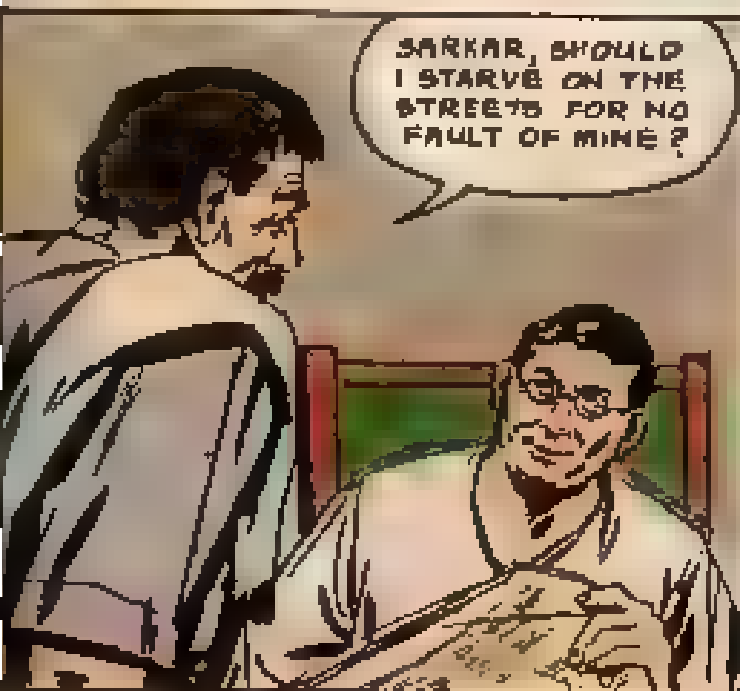
THE PROPOSAL THAT DRS BE PERMITTED TO RETURN THE SUBSEQUENT OFFICIAL ENQUIRY CONDUCTED BY THE BRITISH WAS REJECTED NOR WERE THE PUNJAB LEADERS PERMITTED TO RECORD THEIR STATEMENTS SO THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS SET UP AN UNOFFICIAL ENQUIRY COMMITTEE OF WHICH GANDHI WAS THE CHAIRMAN AND DRS ONE OF THE FOUR MEMBERS



THE BILL, AIMED AT SUPPRESSING THE NATIONAL MOVEMENT, EMPOWERED THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO DETAIN ANYONE WITHOUT A TRIAL

BUT IT WAS ONLY DURING THE HAGUE SESSION OF THE CONGRESS IN DECEMBER 1930 THAT DAS PLUNGED HEADLONG INTO THE MOVEMENT





THESE WESTERN CLOTHES MUST GO, TOO. I'LL MAKE A FINE SOMETHING OF THEM.



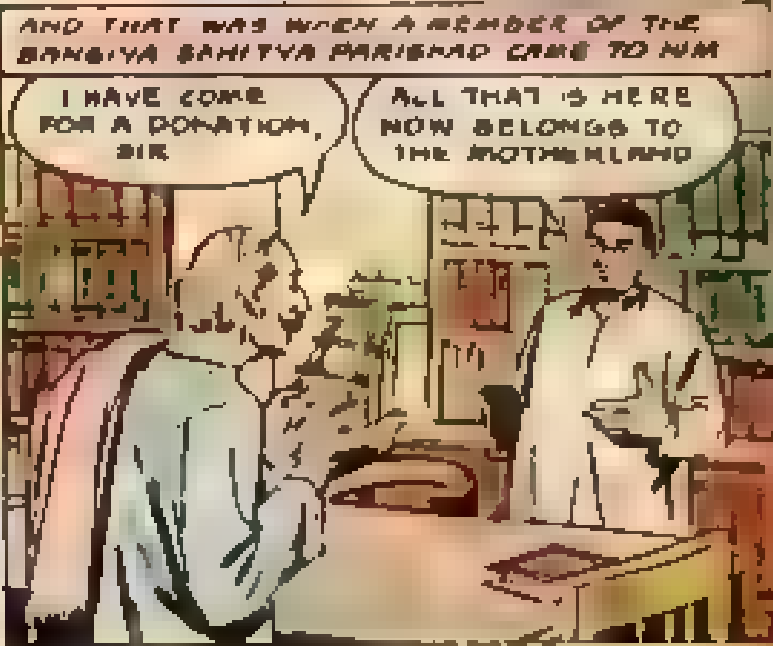
THE NEXT STEP HE TOOK WAS TO SIGN AWAY THE OWNERSHIP OF HIS MATERIAL WEALTH TO THE MOTHERLAND, REDUCING HIMSELF TO THE POSITION OF A MERE TRUSTEE.



AND THAT WAS WHEN A MEMBER OF THE BANGLA SAHITYA PARISHAD CAME TO HIM.

I HAVE COME FOR A DONATION, SIR.

ALL THAT IS HERE NOW BELONGS TO THE MOTHERLAND.



THEN OUR LIBRARY COULD USE THESE BOOKS.

THEY ARE YOURS. MANY MORE WOULD HAVE ACCESS TO THEM IF THEY WERE IN YOUR LIBRARY.



THE NATION HENCEFORTH LOVINGLY REFERRED TO THE BRILLIANT, HUMANE BARRISTER-TURNED-SATYAGRAHI AS "DESHBANDHU" CHITTARANJAN DAS.



ONE DAY A STRANGER CAME TO SEE DESH-BANDHU

MY FRIEND IN LONDON ASKED ME TO PERSONALLY DELIVER THIS LETTER TO YOU HE COULD NOT RISK SENDING IT BY POST

"I HAVE PASSED THE F.C. EXAMINATION BUT SERVICE UNDER AN ALIEN GOVERNMENT AND LOYALTY TO THE MOTHERLAND DON'T GO HAND IN HAND I WISH TO JOIN YOU", HE WRITES. GOOD! WE NEED YOUNG MEN LIKE HIM

THE LETTER WAS FROM NONE OTHER THAN SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE WHO WAS THEN IN LONDON.

MEANWHILE A GROUP OF STUDENTS CAME TO MEET DESHBANDHU.

SIR, WE HAVE STARTED BOYCOTTING THEIR COLLEGES WHEN WILL WE GET OUR NATIONAL COLLEGE?

VERY SOON. I ASSURE YOU.

DESHBANDHU APPROACHED SEVERAL TRUSTS. MANY WERE RELUCTANT

YOU WILL KINDLY EXCUSE ME, MR. BABU. IT WOULD BE A FUTILE VENTURE SUCH COLLEGES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO FUNCTION

IN SPITE OF SUCH SETBACKS DESHBANDHU STARTED THE GAURNA SARVA VIDYAYATAN MAHATMA GANDHI INAUGURATED THE COLLEGE AND SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE WAS THE FIRST PRINCIPAL

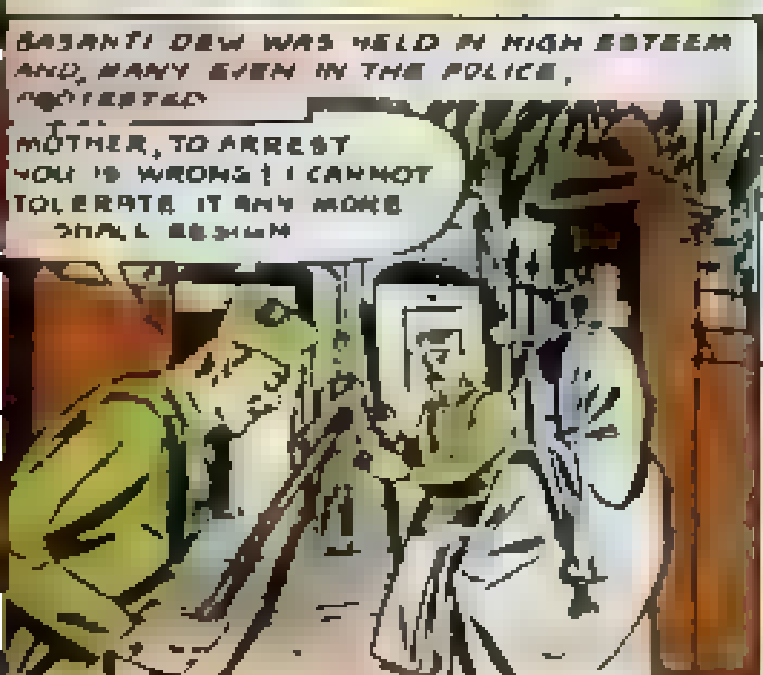
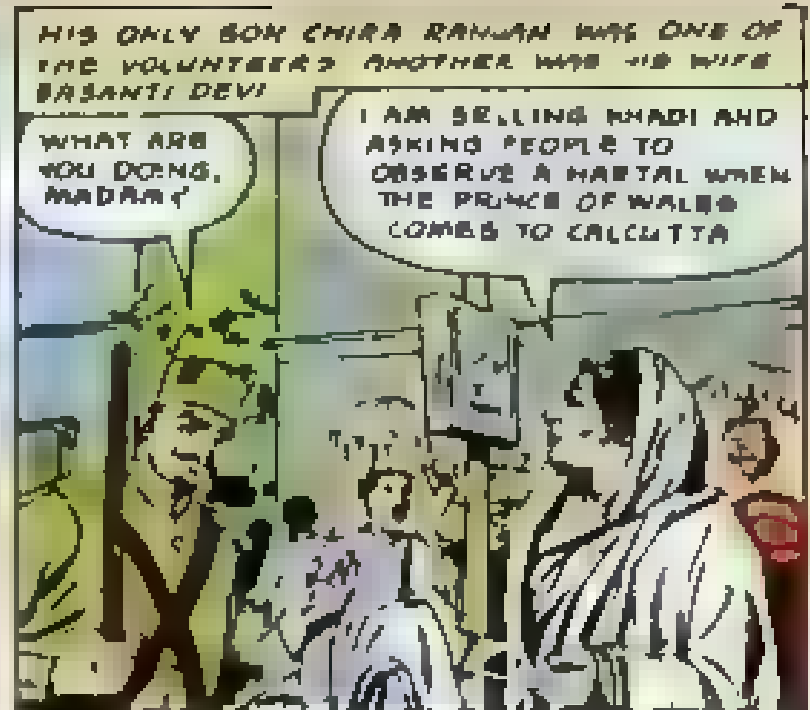
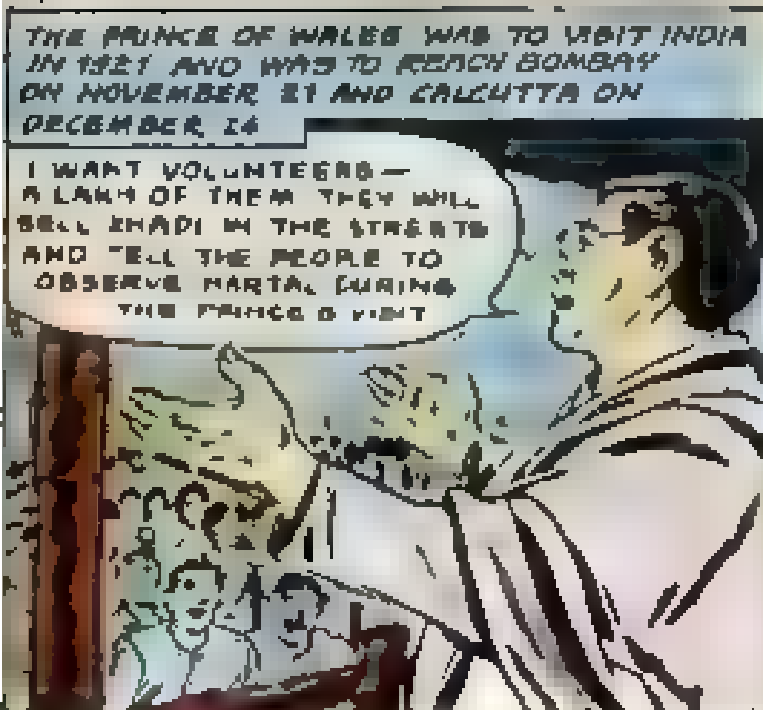
DESHBANDHU DESERVED OUR ADMIRATION FOR MAKING THIS DREAM COME TRUE WITHIN A MONTH OF OUR NAAGUR SESSION

DESHBANDHU THEN BEGAN TO TOUR THE COUNTRY TO SPREAD THE MESSAGE OF THE CONGRESS. LARGE CROWDS GREETED HIM WHEREVER HE WENT

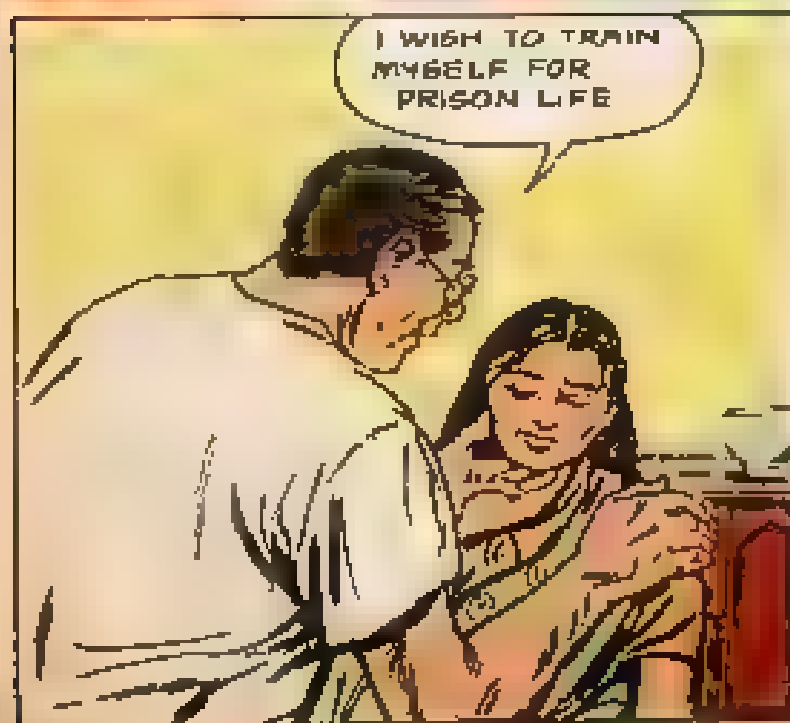
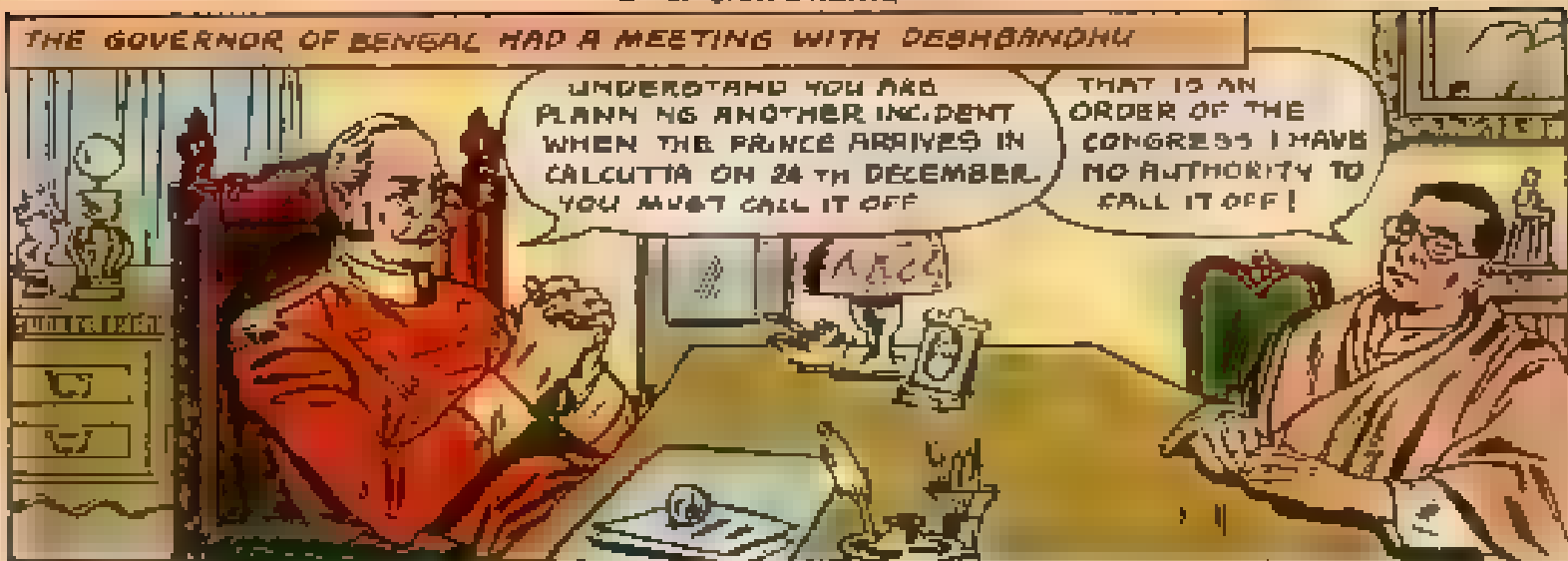


AT ONE STATION THE TRAIN HALTED AT 4 A.M. A SIKH ENTERED DESHBANDHU'S COMPARTMENT





THE GOVERNOR OF BENGAL HAD A MEETING WITH DESHBANDHU



TWO DAYS LATER

THEY HAVE
COME, FATHER

I AM READY
FOR THEM

I WANT TO SEE
THE WARRANT
FOR MY ARREST

IT IS NOT REQUIRED
YOU ARE ARRESTED
UNDER SECTION 54

WHEN WAS THE LAW
CHANGED & SECTION 54
IS FOR CRIMINALS,
NOT FOR POLITICAL
WORKERS

THE HEARING OF DESHBANDHU'S CASE
WAS HELD INSIDE THE PRISON BECAUSE
THE POLICE COULD NOT CONTROL THE
CROWDS OUTSIDE THE COURT

I SENTENCE YOU TO SIX
MONTHS SIMPLE
IMPRISONMENT

THE POLICE HAD NO ANSWER, BUT ARRESTED
HIM NEVERTHELESS.

WILL YOU OPT FOR
EUROPEAN CLASS,
MR. DAS? YOU CAN
GET FOOD FROM
HOME

WHAT IS GOOD ENOUGH
FOR MY FELLOW PRISONERS
IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME

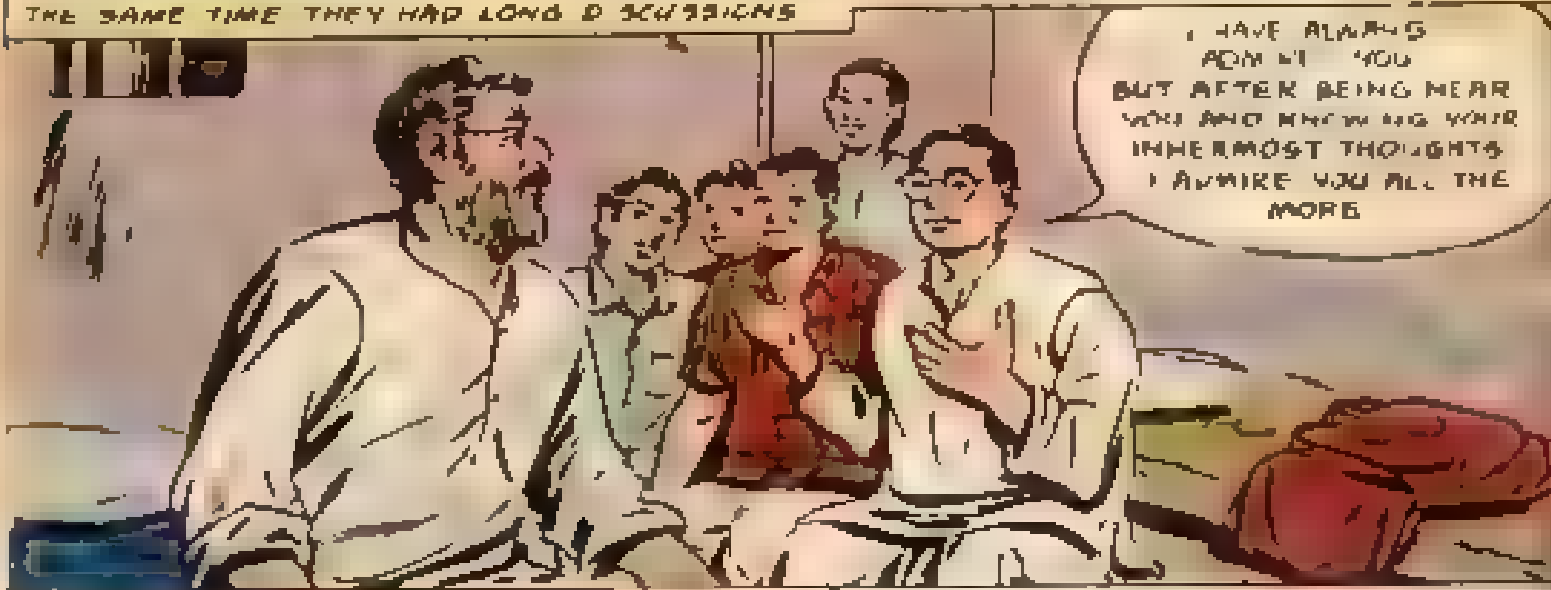
DESHBANDHU DAS WAS THE PRESIDENT-ELECT OF THE FORTHCOMING CONGRESS SESSION AT AHMEDABAD. SAROJINI NAIDU READ OUT THE SPEECH THAT HE WROTE IN PRISON.



"I WOULD BE SHEER HYPOCRISY ON OUR PART TO EXTEND A NATIONAL WELCOME TO THE AMBASSADOR OF THE POWER THAT WOULD DENY US OUR ELEMENTARY RIGHTS ..."



SUBHAS BOSE AND MANY OTHER FOLLOWERS OF DESHBANDHU WERE ALSO IN PRISON AT THE SAME TIME. THEY HAD LONG DISCUSSIONS.



"I HAVE ALWAYS ADMIRE YOU BUT AFTER BEING NEAR YOU AND KNOWING YOUR INNERMOST THOUGHTS I ADMIRE YOU ALL THE MORE."

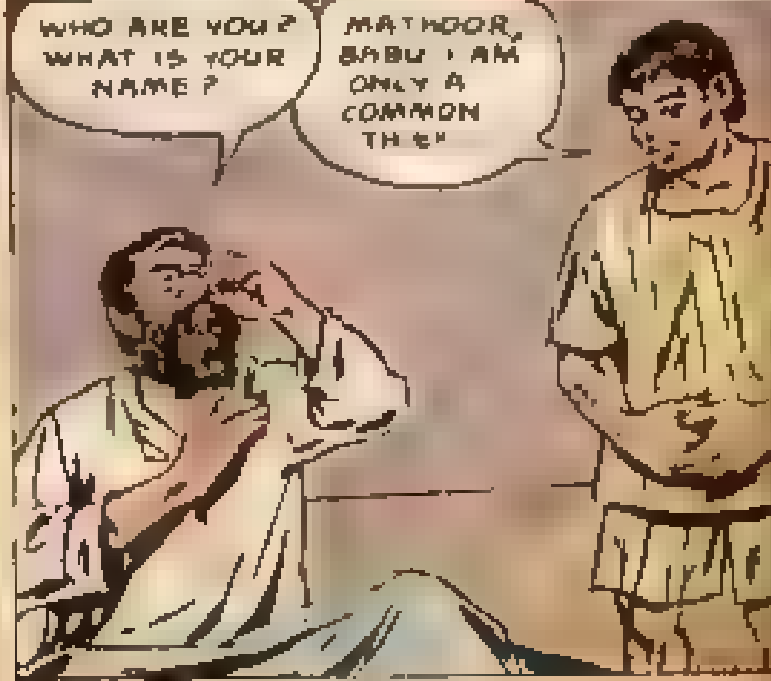
DESHBANDHU'S HEALTH BEGAN TO DECLINE IN PRISON. ONE DAY ...

"BABU, YOU NEED SOMEBODY TO LOOK AFTER YOU. WANT TO BE OF SERVICE?"



"WHO ARE YOU? WHAT IS YOUR NAME?"

"MATHUR, BABU. I AM ONLY A COMMON THING."



THROUGHOUT DESHBANDHU'S ILLNESS
MATHOOR WAS TEND BY HIM AND ATTENDED
TO HIS NEEDS



WHEN DESHBANDHU WAS TO BE RELEASED -



WHEN MATHOOR WAS RELEASED THERE WAS
A LINE UP WAITING FOR HIM OUTSIDE THE
PRISON GATE



THE HOUSEHOLD DID NOT APPROVE OF DASH
VENTURE



THE GAW SESSION OF THE CONGRESS IN DECEMBER 1931. WHEN HE SAW A SPLIT IN THE PARTY, JHAPANESE THOUGHTS WENT, MADE A SPLIT IN

THERE IS NO ROYAL ROAD TO FREEDOM DARK AND DIFFICULT WILL BE THE PATH LEADING TO IT. BUT DAUNTLESS IS YOUR COURAGE AND FIRM YOUR RESOLUTION, AND HEAVEN THERE WILL BE REVERSES SOME TIMES SEVERE REVERSES THEY WILL ONLY HAVE THE EFFECT OF SPEEDING YOUR EMANCIPATION FROM THE BONDAGE OF A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT

HE MOVED A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING UNLIMITED ENTRY THAT DEFEATED MOTILAL AND NEHRUBANDHU RESIGNED FROM THE WORKING COMMITTEE

OUR DIFFERENCE WILL ONLY BE FOR A SHORT WHILE THE MAJORITY WILL SHOW AN EXTENSIVE POINT OF VIEW

WITHIN THE CONGRESS, DAS AND MOTILAL NEHRU FORMED THE SWARAJYA PARTY

NEHRUBANDHU TOURED ALL OVER INDIA TO EXPLAIN THE SWARAJYA PARTY'S POLICY

IF WE BOYCOTT THE LEGISLATURE THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE HAPPY. FOR SUCH A STEP WOULD MAKE ITS WORK THAT MUCH SIMPLER.

WE WILL TAKE THE NON CO OPERATION MOVEMENT TO THE LEGISLATURE WE WILL EFFECTIVELY BLOCK ALL GOVERNMENT MEMBERS AS MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE

NEHRUBANDHU MONITORED A 5% DEAL OF SWARAJ AND AT THE 1934 SESSION OF THE CONGRESS IN DELHI HE MOVED A RESOLUTION

IT IS UNLAWFUL TO RUN THE LEGISLATURES WE SHOULD HAVE AS MANY SEATS AS POSSIBLE THE LEGISLATURES SHALL NOT LIVE IN THE WAY OF THE SWARAJISTS

DESHBANDHU AND HIS MEN CONTESTED THE ELECTION.

IT'S A LANDSLIDE VICTORY!

DESHBANDHU KI JAI!



THE GOVERNOR INVITED DESHBANDHU TO FORM A MINISTRY.

THIS IS MY REPLY. "MEMBERS OF MY PARTY ARE PLEDGED TO PUT AN END TO THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT. I DECLINE TO ACCEPT YOUR EXCELLENCY'S GRACIOUS OFFER".



THE SWARAJYA PARTY ACTED AS A POWERFUL OPPOSITION IN THE BENGAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND VOTED DOWN ALL UNPOPULAR MEASURES.

THIS IS THE THIRD TIME WE HAVE DEFEATED THE OFFICIAL RESOLUTION. THE GOVERNMENT JUST CAN'T FUNCTION!

I KNEW NON-CO-OPERATION WOULD BE VERY EFFECTIVE!



ELECTIONS TO THE CALCUTTA CORPORATION WERE HELD AND HERE TOO DESHBANDHU AND HIS MEN WON EASILY. DESHBANDHU WAS ELECTED MAYOR AND SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE BECAME HIS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER.

WE INDIANS REGARD THE POOR AS GOD! I SHALL TRY TO DIRECT THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CORPORATION TO SERVING THE POOR.



THE PRESSURE OF CARELESS WORK BEGAN TO TELL ON DESHBANDHU'S HEALTH.

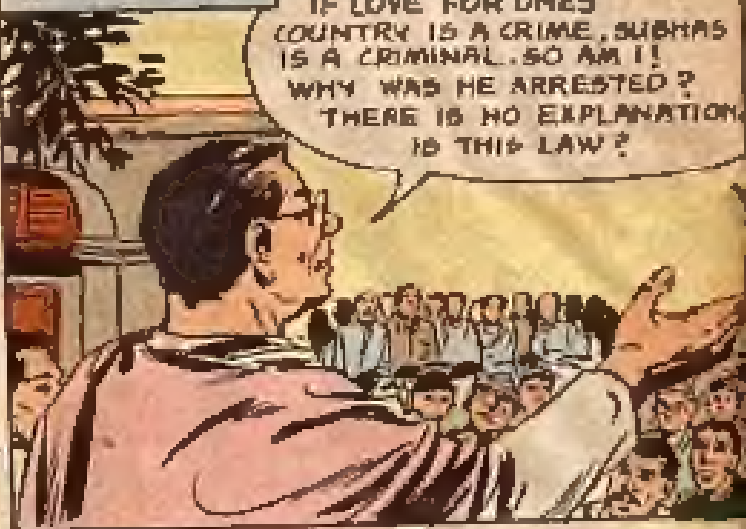
YOU MUST GO TO THE HILLS FOR A CHANGE. WE WILL MANAGE HERE. DON'T WORRY ABOUT US.



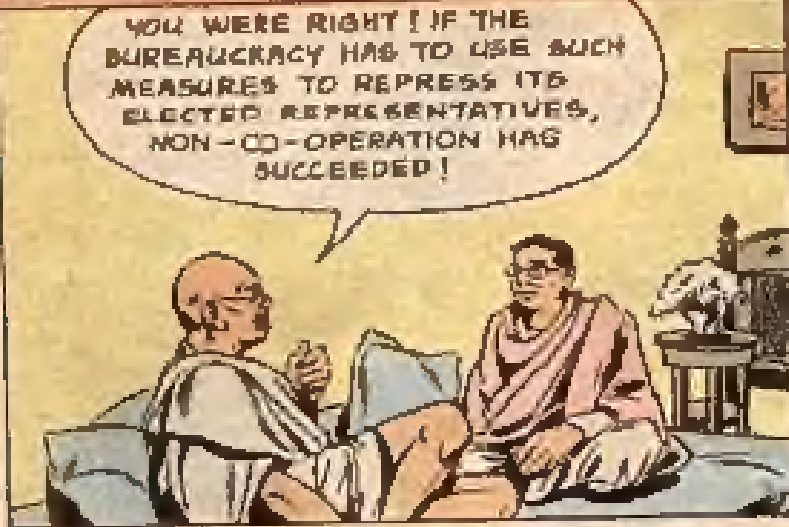
DESHBANDHU LEFT FOR SIMLA, BUT HE HAD TO CUT SHORT HIS HOLIDAY WHEN HE RECEIVED A WIRE FROM CALCUTTA.



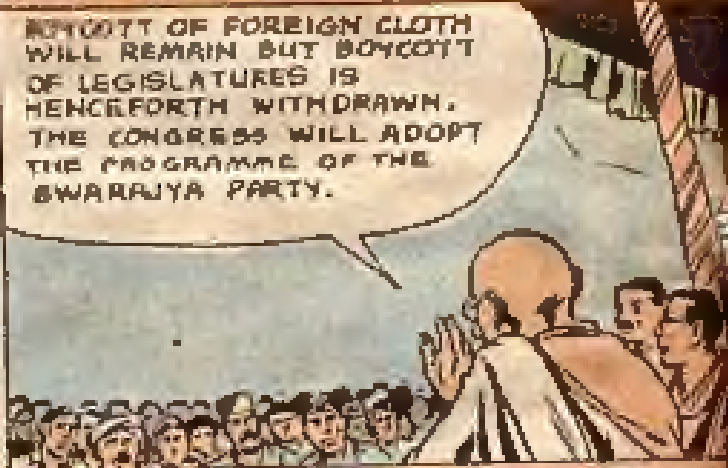
MEETINGS WERE HELD IN PROTEST. DESHBANDHU SPOKE AT THE CALCUTTA CORPORATION.



MAHATMA GANDHI CAME TO CALCUTTA AND NOW THERE WAS COMPLETE RAPPORT BETWEEN HIM AND DESHBANDHU.



THIS RAPPORT WAS CONFIRMED AT THE BELGAUM CONFERENCE HELD IN 1924.



THIS WAS A VICTORY FOR THE STAND TAKEN BY DAS AND MOTILAL.

DESHBANDHU'S HEALTH DETERIORATED.



THE SPEAKER WAS AN OLD FRIEND AND COLLEAGUE, SHRI N. N. SIRCAR.



GANDHI HAPPENED TO BE IN
BENGAL AND JOINED DESHBANDHU
AT DARJEELING. THEY WENT FOR
WALKS AND HELD LENGTHY
DISCUSSIONS.



THE HOUSE HAD BECOME A SPINNING CLASS!

I CAN NEVER SPIN ON
THE CHARAKHA, WITHOUT
BARANTI'S HELP, BAPUJI.
SHE HOLDS THE KEY TO
MY PLYING THE CHARAKHA.

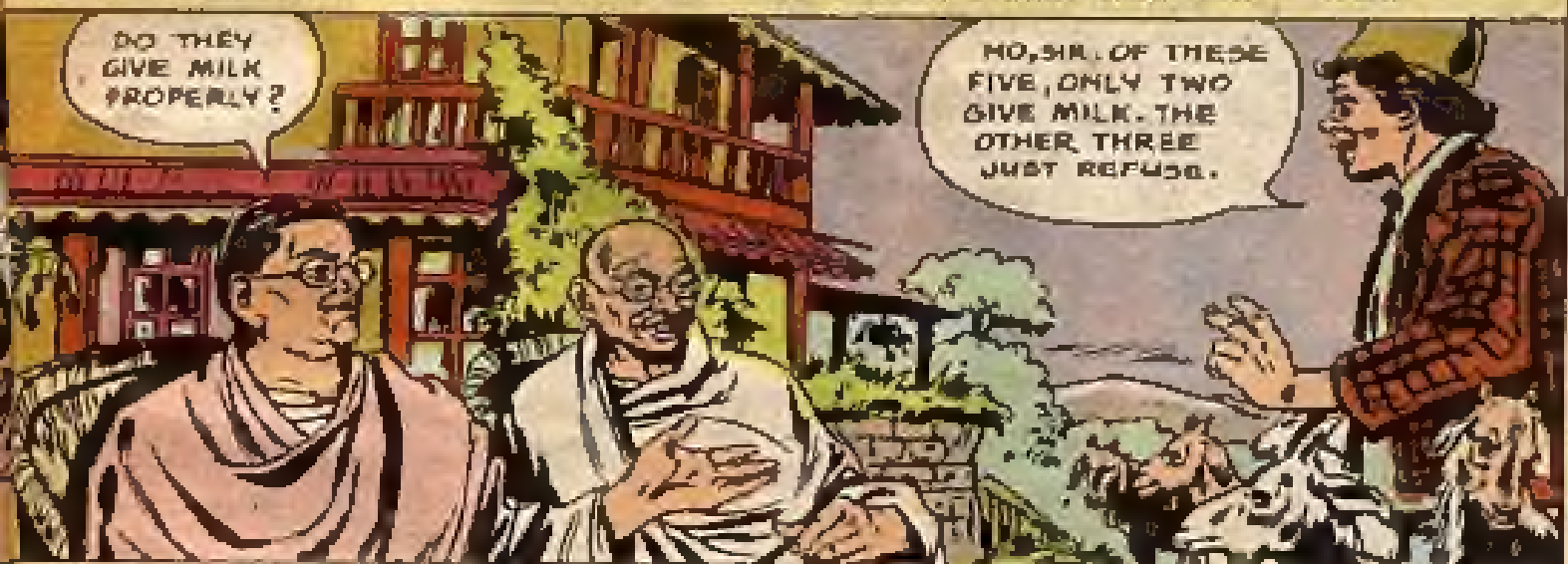
IT'S JUST A FEMININE
WILE TO MAKE HER
HUSBAND DEPENDENT
ON HER.



THE HOST HAD ARRANGED FOR FIVE GOATS AS GANDHI DRANK ONLY GOAT'S MILK.

DO THEY
GIVE MILK
PROPERLY?

NO, SIR. OF THESE
FIVE, ONLY TWO
GIVE MILK. THE
OTHER THREE
JUST REFUSE.



THESE THREE HAVE TAKEN
TO NON-CO-OPERATION!
PUT THEM IN A JAIL.
THE LOYAL ONES SHOULD
GET TITLES FROM
BAPU!



DESHBANDHU'S FEVER USED TO COME OFF AND ON.

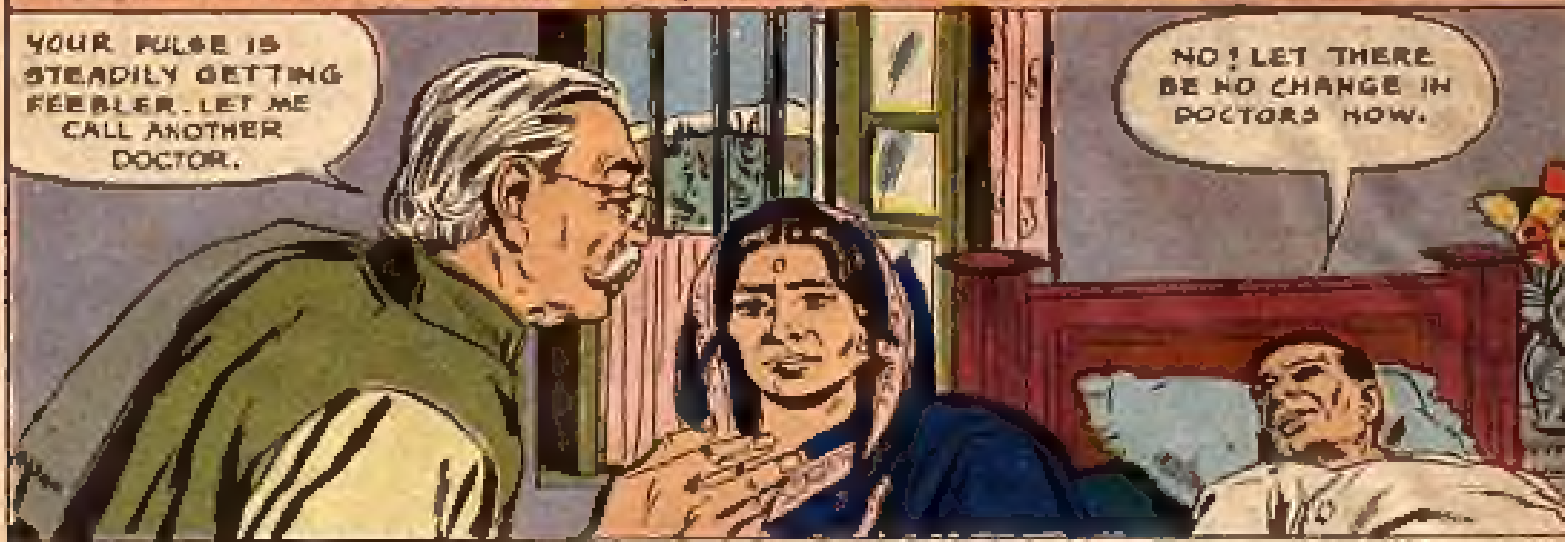
THIS REMINDS ME OF OLD
TIMES. KAGTURBA USED
TO SIT AT MY FEET AS
I NOW SIT HERE!



A SHORT WHILE AFTER GANDHI LEFT, DESHBANDHU HAD A SERVE RELAPSE.

YOUR PULSE IS STEADILY GETTING FEEBLER. LET ME CALL ANOTHER DOCTOR.

NO! LET THERE BE NO CHANGE IN DOCTORS NOW.

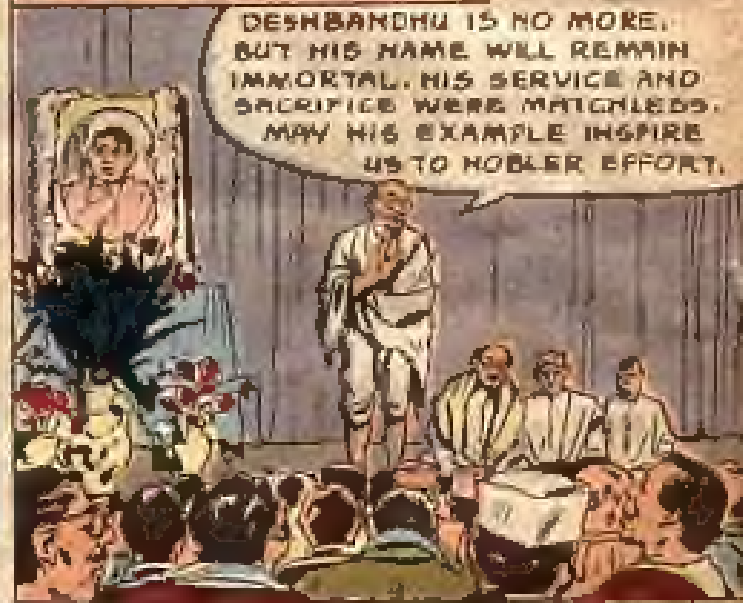


VERY SOON, IT WAS OVER. THE FIFTY-FOUR-YEAR OLD STALWART OF THE FREEDOM STRUGGLE PASSED AWAY. THE COUNTRY WAS PLUNGED INTO GLOOM. HALF A MILLION PEOPLE ACCOMPANIED THE BIER THROUGH THE STREETS OF CALCUTTA.



AT THE CONDOLENCE MEETING GANDHI WAS THE ONLY SPEAKER.

DESHBANDHU IS NO MORE. BUT HIS NAME WILL REMAIN IMMORTAL. HIS SERVICE AND SACRIFICE WERE MATCHLESS. MAY HIS EXAMPLE INSPIRE US TO NOBLER EFFORT.



HIS LIFE DID INSPIRE THE PEOPLE TO CARRY ON THE STRUGGLE...



... WHICH CONTRIBUTED IN NO SMALL MEASURE TO INDIA WINNING HER INDEPENDENCE ON AUGUST 15, 1947.

